



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND HEADQUARTERS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20361-0001

IN REPLY REFER TO  
NAVAIRINST 3900.6C  
AIR-5111  
22 Apr 86

NAVAIR INSTRUCTION 3900.6C

From: Commander, Naval Air Systems Command

Subj: RELEASE AND DISSEMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT TEST AND  
EVALUATION REPORTS

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3960.10B, Test and Evaluation  
(b) NAVAIRINST 3900.5A, Marking, Release, and  
Dissemination of NAVAIR Technical Reports

1. Purpose. To delineate revised policy and procedures within the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) for distribution of development test and evaluation (DT&E) reports pertaining to major systems acquisition programs, Acquisition Categories I through IV.

2. Cancellation. This instruction supersedes NAVAIR Instruction 3900.6B of 28 December 1977. Since this is a major revision, changes have not been indicated.

3. Background

a. Reference (a) implements Department of Defense policy for the conduct of test and evaluation within the Navy. It defines DT&E and operational test and evaluation and places DT&E prior to the operational evaluation (OPEVAL).

b. Reference (b) establishes procedures relating to the primary (initial) release and distribution of NAVAIR technical reports, and specifies mandatory distribution and marking requirements. DT&E reports are exempt from the distribution requirements of reference (b).

c. The purpose and nature of DT&E reports for major systems acquisitions dictate that distribution be carefully controlled. They constitute the basis for initiating and carrying forward such deficiency corrective actions as may be deemed necessary to permit certification of the system's readiness for OPEVAL. Such reports are internal management tools utilized by Naval Air Systems Command Headquarters (NAVAIRHQ) personnel to monitor the DT&E of a system acquisition program. Corrective actions on reported difficulties and discrepancies are taken as rapidly as feasible, are frequently incremental, and often occur concurrently with publication of the report. DT&E reports rarely reflect the current system configuration or program status.



22 Apr 86

4. Policy. It is NAVAIR policy to restrict distribution of DT&E reports to those activities involved in the design evolution process. There is no intent to restrict the distribution of useful information from those agencies or activities that have a bonafide need-to-know; rather, it is intended that only final definitive reports receive wide distribution. Such reports are far more useful than those that pertain to reliability problems, operational capabilities or a configuration not representative of production systems released to the fleet.

5. Procedures. DT&E reports will be marked per reference (b). They will not be furnished to the Defense Technical Information Center, but will be distributed under the following instructions:

a. Primary distribution of DT&E reports will be restricted to:

(1) Commander, Naval Air Systems Command.

(2) Chief of Naval Operations (OP-04,50, 090, 095, 098).

(3) Naval test activities directly involved with the development of the hardware, its components, and related software.

(4) Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force.

(5) Test and evaluation squadron assigned for the OPEVAL if known.

(6) Senior Member, Board of Inspection and Survey, Aviation Board, Patuxent River.

(7) The cognizant system contractor via the appropriate naval plant representative office, Air Force plant representative office, or defense contract administrative services management area.

(8) Agencies specifically identified in the AIRTASK/Work Unit Assignment.

(9) Other activities approved by the NAVAIRHQ cognizant division director.

b. Secondary distribution of DT&E reports will be restricted to activities previously authorized to receive primary distribution plus other activities approved by the Systems Engineering Management Division (AIR-511), NAVAIRHQ.

22 Apr 86

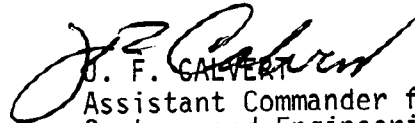
## 6. Action

a. DT&E activities will, within 1 month of test completion, submit interim reports of principal findings to NAVAIRHQ codes identified in the AIRTASK/Work Unit Assignment by the communications method(s) specified. A formal final report which completely documents the findings will be submitted as soon thereafter as feasible. Copies of all final reports will be distributed as stated in paragraph 5a.

b. NAVAIRHQ project engineers will submit all AIRTASK/Work Unit Assignments establishing DT&E, that specify distribution of final reports to activities other than those listed in paragraph 5a, to the NAVAIRHQ cognizant division director and the cognizant assistant program manager for systems and engineering for concurrence.

c. Test activities will not include DT&E reports in any published compilation of abstracts of test reports.

7. Reports. Report symbol OPNAV-3960-8 assigned by reference (a) applies to the DT&E reports contained in paragraph 6 above and is approved for 3 years from the date of this instruction.

  
J. F. CALVERT  
Assistant Commander for  
Systems and Engineering

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